

On 16th January a male and female Smew were shot. They too are uncommon up here.

STATION STAFF OFFICE,

QUETTA.

M. B. P. REEVE,

January 21, 1938.

Major.

[This is the fourth recorded instance of the occurrence of this duck within Indian limits since the publication of the record of the specimen shot by Capt. A. E. L. Dredge at Chaman, Baluchistan, in October 1933 (*J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. xxxvii, p. 549).—EDS.]

XXI.—SHELDRAKE (*TADORNA TADORNA* LINN.)
IN ORISSA.

Since I wrote to you on the 17th December a friend of mine here has been down to the Chilka Lake and tells me that he saw hundreds of Sheldrake (*Tadorna tadorna* Linn.) there; one of which he shot to show to the boatmen, as they were unfamiliar with the species. This seems to be a particularly interesting record in view of the fact given recording the distribution of this duck by Stuart Baker in *Indian Ducks and Their Allies* and subsequently in the *New Fauna*, vol. vi. Chilka Lake is, as you know, 320 miles south of Calcutta.

1, CLIVE STREET,

CALCUTTA.

R. J. CLOUGH.

January 1, 1938.

XXII.—A HYBRID: COMMON TEAL AND BAIKAL TEAL.

I do not know whether the following note is of any interest.

When shooting Duck on the Mirgund Reserve in the main Kashmir Valley, I shot an unusual duck. It was in general appearance rather like a drake Teal, but much larger and heavier. It had two markedly pointed tail feathers. It weighed 1 lb. 4 oz. It was flying in company with ordinary Teal. Date, 29-12-37.

It was skinned by Mr. F. Ludlow and sent to the British Museum (Natural History) for identification.

I have since heard that it is unlike any bird that they had previously received and after a number of people had looked at it, it was decided that it was a cross between a common Teal (*Nettion creca*) and a Baikal Teal (*N. formosum*). The visits of the Baikal Teal to India are extremely rare.

THE RESIDENCY, KASHMIR,

SRINAGAR.

J. W. THOMSON GLOVER.

April 1938.